

## Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W  
----- 038863

R 040330Z FEB 76  
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4151  
USDOC WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN,EINV, NP

SUBJ: NEPAL CLAIMS AGREEMENT ON MINERAL EXPLOITATION

1. ACCORDING TO RSS ANNOUNCEMENT FEBRUARY 2 AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON CONSORTIUM TO DEVELOP ZINC AND LEAD RESOURCES IN GANESH HIMAL REGION NEAR LARI IN RASUA DISTRICT. CONSORTIUM WILL BE LED BY HMG WITH 50 PER CENT INTEREST, WITH REMAINING SHARES EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN HYDERABAD ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS LTD AND JOHNS-MANVILLE (CANADA). JOHNS-MANVILLE, IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING 25 PER CENT EQUITY CAPITAL, WILL SUPPLY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PROJECT.

2. BUREAU OF MINES OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT ACCORDING TO INITIAL ESTIMATES AREA MAY HOLD AS MUCH AS 24,000 METRIC TONS OF ZINC AND 800 TONS OF LEAD TO BE EXTRACTED FROM SURFACE ORE. ONE PROBLEM IS THAT AREA IS AT ALTITUDE OF OVER 14,000 FEET AND IS SNOW COVERED MUCH OF THE YEAR. BUREAU OF MINES OFFICIAL SAID THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED "ONLY IN PRINCIPLE" AND THAT FINAL CONTRACT WITH FOREIGN PARTNERS, INCLUDING JOHNS-MANVILLE, HAS NOT BEEN CONCLUDED.

3. COMMENT: NEWS OF AGREEMENT, EVEN IN PRINCIPAL, COMES AS SOMETHING OF A SURPRISE TO US SINCE WE HAD UNDERSTOOD IN EARLY 1975 THAT JOHNS-MANVILLE WOULD NOT PROVIDE EQUITY, ALTHOUGH IT WAS WILLING TO SELL TECHNICAL KNOWHOW AND EQUIPMENT. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO  
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ACTION ADDRESSEES. CARGO

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, ZINC, CONSORTIUMS, MINING INDUSTRY, LEAD  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976KATHMA00542  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760041-0830  
**From:** KATHMANDU  
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**Line Count:** 61  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 JUN 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEPAL CLAIMS AGREEMENT ON MINERAL EXPLOITATION  
**TAGS:** EMIN, EINV, NP  
**To:** STATE NEW DELHI  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006